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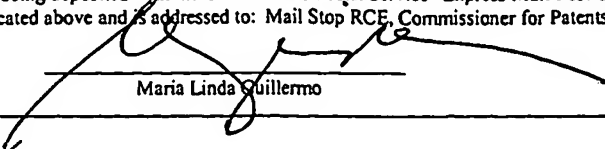


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Maria Linda Guillermo

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Douglas P. ALLARD**

Serial No.: **10/017,385**

Filed: **December 14, 2001**

For: **HIGH CAPACITY BASIN FILTRATION
SYSTEM WITH ADJUSTABLE DEFLECTOR
RING**

Group Art Unit: **3673**

Examiner: **Alexandra K. Pechhold**

Atty. Dkt. No.: **11533.0012.CPUS05**

Confirmation No. **6843**

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 25, 2003

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Pechhold:

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated **November 25, 2003**, having a shortened statutory period for response that expired on **February 25, 2004**. A Petition for extending this period for response by three months to **May 25, 2004** accompanies this response, along with a Request for Continued Examination and a check for the appropriate extension fee. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the claims in view of the following amendments and remarks.

